

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference LINO732PWO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/000224	International filing date (day/month/year) 14-01-2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17-01-2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A61F 2/36			
Applicant WALDEMAR LINK GMBH & CO. KG			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersedes earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 13-08-2004	Date of completion of this report 07-02-2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/000224

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

the international application in the language in which it was filed

the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))

publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))

international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages 1-11 _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* 1-9 _____ received by this Authority on 13.08.2004 / letter of

pages* _____ received by this Authority on 12.08.2004

the drawings:

pages 1/1 _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____

the claims, Nos. _____

the drawings, sheets/figs _____

the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____

the claims, Nos. _____

the drawings, sheets/figs _____

the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/000224

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-0 682 924 (HERMANN WERNER)

22 November 1995 (1995-11-22).

Document D1 is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. Said document discloses (the references in parentheses are to D1) a femoral prosthesis (column 2, lines 31-57, figure 2) with a shaft (6) the distal section of which has a cross section that tapers towards the distal end (9), longitudinal ribs (10) being provided at least on the lateral and medial side of said shaft. Longitudinal ribs of different height are arranged in series, the height of the individual longitudinal ribs being constant relative to the longitudinal axis of the shaft, such that the ribs increase in height along the taper towards the distal end.

The subject matter of claim 1 therefore differs from the known hip prosthesis in that, at a distance of 1 cm from the distal end, the cross section of the core of the shaft is delimited by a right angle with an axial ratio

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. V**Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

of at least 1.5 and, close to the distal end, has a rib on each of the two lateral edges, the mean height of said ribs being less than 2 mm and the delimitation of the shaft-core cross section between the two ribs not projecting laterally beyond the two ribs.

Thus, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can, in consequence, be regarded as that of preventing the bone substance compressed between the ribs from escaping sideways and, at the same time, avoiding an overloading of the lateral bone wall.

The solution to the above problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)). The reasons are the following:

said problem is solved in that, firstly, the necessary longitudinal ribs are provided and, secondly, because of the rectangular cross section of the lateral bone wall, the greatest possible load transmission surface is placed in opposition. This solution is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the international search report, nor is it rendered obvious thereby.

Claims 2-9 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise satisfy the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step.